

AMENDMENT

Please amend the following claims without prejudice, without admission, without surrender of subject matter, and without any intention of creating any estoppel as to equivalents, as follows:

In the claims:

1. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for coupling to an object, comprising coupling means for slidably coupling said apparatus to a substantially fixed object; said coupling means defining a receiving surface at a first portion thereof, an extended second portion thereof, and a receiving means extending outwardly from the extended second portion of the coupling means, said receiving means having a first end and a second end; attachment means for attaching an object to said apparatus, said attachment means comprising two outer members coupled by a bridge, a first of said outer members comprising an extending member extending toward a second of said outer members, said second of said outer members defining a recess for receiving said extending member, said bridge defining a recess for rotatably receiving said extended second portion of said coupling means, wherein said coupling means and said attachment means are detachable from each other.
2. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein said extending member pierces a sheet material to couple said sheet material with said substantially fixed object.
3. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as claimed in claim 2, wherein said receiving means can receive a protective material that protects said sheet material.
4. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the attachment means is rotatably attached to the coupling means.
5. (Currently Amended) The apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the receiving means has a concave portion at the first end ~~that is concavely shaped~~.
6. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein said receiving means has an enlarged second end.
7. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein beads are optionally disposed on the receiving surface.
8. (Previously Presented) A fastening device for hanging a sheet material onto a substantially fixed object, comprising: a coupling means for coupling to a substantially fixed

object, said coupling means including a receiving surface and a hook; and a fastening means having a first end connected to the coupling means and a second end facilitating the fastening of the sheet material; wherein said coupling means and said fastening means are detachable from each other.

9. (Previously Presented) A connector for connecting a shower curtain to a rod comprising: a rod connector comprising coupling means, attachment means detachable from each other, said rod connector being capable of contemporaneously connecting to a rod, and said coupling means including a receiving surface and a hook to receive a material; and a shower curtain holder attached to said rod connector.

10. (Previously Presented) The connector as claimed in claim 8, wherein beads are optionally disposed on the rod connector in order to facilitate the movement of the connector on a rod.

11. (Previously Presented) The connector as claimed in claim 8, wherein the shower curtain holder is comprised of an extending member and a corresponding recess on the opposite end of a bridge whereby the bridge connects the extending member and the recess.

12. (Currently Amended) A fastening device for connecting a sheet material having at least one aperture onto a substantially fixed object, comprising: a first component having a first end, a second end and a hook, wherein the first end comprises a curved hook for hanging the fastening device onto the substantially fixed object, and the second end comprises an extending member with an enlarged end ~~such as~~ comprising a bulbous head; and a second component having first and second ends, wherein the first end comprises a sleeve and a recess for matingly engaging the extending member with a bulbous head of the first component, and a second end comprising means for engaging the aperture of the sheet material, such that when the sleeve and the recess of the first end of the second component is matingly engaged to the extending member with the bulbous head of the first component, the second component is connected to and freely rotatable about the first component.

13. (Currently Amended) A fastening device for connecting a shower curtain having at least one aperture onto a rod, comprising: a first component having a first end, a second end ~~and~~ comprising a receiving means extending outwardly from the second end, wherein the first end comprises a ring having a locking mechanism for coupling the fastening device onto a rod, and the ~~second end~~ receiving means comprises a bulbous male adaptor; and a second component having first and second ends, wherein the first end comprises a female adaptor for matingly

engaging the bulbous male adaptor of the first component, and a second end comprising a male adaptor opposing a female receiver and connected by a bridge for matingly engaging the aperture of the shower curtain, such that when the male adaptor penetrates the aperture and matingly is engaged with the female receiver the shower curtain is fastened to the second component; and when the first end of the second component is matingly engaged to the bulbous male adaptor of the first component, the second component is connected to the first component and the shower curtain is hanging from the rod; wherein said first component and said second component are detachable from each other.